

CLAIMS

1. A method for distributing realtime updates to active application components in an active client position, comprising:

establishing a first communications connection between a platform managing the active application components and a configuration client;

establishing a second communications connection between said configuration client and a configuration server;

delivering updates to said configuration client over said second communications connection, wherein each update corresponds to at least one particular application component;

notifying said platform that updates are available;

responsive to said notification, terminating execution of said particular active application components, delivering each said updates over said first communications connection to said platform, applying each said update said at least one corresponding application component, and re-executing each said updated application component.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said terminating step comprises:

identifying said at least one particular corresponding application component to be updated based on said notification;

terminating instances of each said identified application component; and

removing interdependencies between said terminated application component instances and other application components.

7 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein said re-executing step comprises:
 8 instantiating each said updated application component; and
 9 initializing each said updated application component instance.

1 4. The method according to claim 3, wherein said initializing step comprises:
 2 communicating configuration information to said configuration client; and
 3 reinitializing state information internal to each said updated application
 4 component based on said configuration information.

5 5. The method according to claim 3, further comprising requesting from said
 6 configuration client update notifications, said update notifications notifying said platform
 7 of application component updates as said updates become available in said
 8 configuration server.

9 6. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of transmitting
 10 update notifications over said second communications connection to said configuration
 11 client, said update notifications notifying said configuration client of application
 12 component updates as said updates become available in said configuration server.

1 7. The method according to claim 6, wherein said step of transmitting update
 2 notifications over said second connection, comprises the steps of:
 3 packetizing said update notifications according to the universal datagram

4 protocol (UDP); and

5 transmitting said UDP packets to said configuration client.

1 8. The method according to claim 1, wherein said configuration server is an LDAP
2 server.

1 9. The method according to claim 8, further comprising storing said application
2 component updates in an LDAP-based database in said LDAP server.

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10. A system for updating active client positions comprising:
a platform for managing active application components;
a configuration server for storing updates; and,
a configuration client for receiving updates from said configuration server and
communicating said received updates to said platform;
said platform receiving said updates from said configuration client, terminating
selected ones of said active application components, applying said received updates to
said terminated application components, and reloading said updated application
components.

1 11. The system of claim 10, wherein said configuration server is an LDAP server.

1 12. The system of claim 10, wherein said active application components are

instances of Java classes.

13. The system of claim 10, wherein said configuration client further comprises:

a notifier object and a listener interface,

wherein said active application components are configured to receive update notifications from said configuration client through said listener interface.

14. The system of claim 10, wherein said configuration server further comprises:

a notifier object and a listener interface,

wherein said configuration client is configured to receive update notifications from said configuration server through said listener interface.

15. A machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections for distributing realtime updates to active application components in an active client position, said code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

establishing a first communications connection between a platform managing the active application components and a configuration client;

establishing a second communications connection between said configuration client and a configuration server;

delivering updates to said configuration client over said second communications connection, wherein each update corresponds to at least one particular application

11 component;

12 notifying said platform that updates are available;

13 responsive to said notification, terminating execution of said particular active
14 application components, delivering each said updates over said first communications
15 connection to said platform, applying each said update said at least one corresponding
16 application component, and re-executing each said updated application component.

1 16. The machine readable storage of claim 15, wherein said terminating step
2 comprises:

3 identifying said at least one particular corresponding application component to be
4 updated based on said notification;
5 terminating instances of each said identified application component; and
6 removing interdependencies between said terminated application component
7 instances and other application components.

1 17. The machine readable storage of claim 15, wherein said re-executing step
2 comprises:

3 instantiating each said updated application component; and
4 initializing each said updated application component instance.

1 18. The machine readable storage of claim 17, wherein said initializing step
2 comprises:

3 communicating configuration information to said configuration client; and
 4 reinitializing state information internal to each said updated application
 5 component based on said configuration information.

1 19. The machine readable storage of claim 17, further comprising requesting from
 2 said configuration client update notifications, said update notifications notifying said
 3 platform of application component updates as said updates become available in said
 4 configuration server.

1 20. The machine readable storage of claim 15, further comprising the step of
 2 transmitting update notifications over said second communications connection to said
 3 configuration client, said update notifications notifying said configuration client of
 4 application component updates as said updates become available in said configuration
 5 server.

1 21. The machine readable storage of claim 20, wherein said step of transmitting
 2 update notifications over said second connection, comprises the steps of:
 3 packetizing said update notifications according to the universal datagram
 4 protocol (UDP); and
 5 transmitting said UDP packets to said configuration client.

1 22. The machine readable storage of claim 15, wherein said configuration server is

2 an LDAP server.

1 23. The machine readable storage of claim 22, further comprising storing said
2 application component updates in an LDAP-based database in said LDAP server.

1 24. A method for distributing realtime updates to active application components
2 executing in an active client position, comprising:

3 receiving updates to the active application components from a communicatively
4 linked configuration client, each update corresponding to at least one particular
5 application component;

6 terminating execution of each particular active application component having a
7 received corresponding update;

8 applying said received updates to said corresponding application components;
9 and,

10 re-executing said updated application components.

1 25. The method of claim 24, wherein said terminating step comprises:

2 terminating instances of each particular active application component having a
3 received corresponding update; and

4 removing interdependencies between said terminated application component
5 instances and other application components.

1 26. The method according to claim 24, wherein said re-executing step comprises:
2 instantiating each updated application component; and
3 initializing each updated application component instance.

1 27. The method according to claim 24, further comprising subscribing to update
2 notifications from said configuration client, said update notifications notifying the active
3 client position of application component updates as said updates become available.

28. A machine readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having
a plurality of code sections for distributing realtime updates to active application
components executing in an active client position, said code sections executable by a
machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

receiving updates to the active application components from a communicatively
linked configuration client, each update corresponding to at least one particular
application component;

terminating execution of each particular active application component having a
received corresponding update;

applying said received updates to said corresponding application components;

and,

re-executing said updated application components.

1 29. The machine readable storage of claim 28, wherein said terminating step

comprises:

terminating instances of each particular active application component having a
received corresponding update; and
removing interdependencies between said terminated application component
instances and other application components.

30. The machine readable storage of claim 28, wherein said re-executing step
comprises:

instantiating each updated application component; and
initializing each updated application component instance.

31. The machine readable storage of claim 28, further comprising subscribing to
update notifications from said configuration client, said update notifications notifying the
active client position of application component updates as said updates become
available.